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Wright State University Retirees Association

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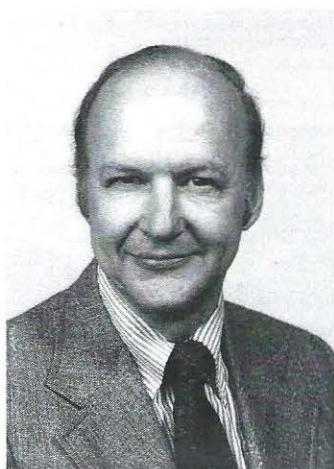


Wright State University Retirees Association

Issue 69

Winter
Quarter 2011

The Extension



Kegerreis Memorial Service

On November 18, the Wright State community gathered to honor **Robert Kegerreis**, our second president. WSURA was well represented in the audience and on the podium. Current Board members, **Gary Pacernik** and **Carol Stevenson** represented the retired faculty and staff and former Board member, **Alphonso Smith**, represented retired administration. In addition to reading remembrances from former faculty (**Gary**) and staff (**Carol**), **Carol** made the following remarks in honor of our longest serving president:

"**Mrs. Kegerreis** and family, **President Hopkins**, honored guests, faculty and staff. As a retired staff member, it is my privilege and honor to represent the Wright State University Retirees Association at this memorial celebration of the life of **Dr. Robert Kegerreis**. Some called him Bob, some called him Dr., some called him President, some called him Sir, and some just stared at the floor because they didn't know how to pronounce his name.

"Through interviews with University staff members past and present, a portrait of leadership and professionalism emerged. **Dr. Kegerreis** set the tone, and demeanor for a university president. He championed the university during a period of growth some remembered being referred to as the "Golden Years," years of great growth and media exposure. Descriptive words like professional, organized, detailed, observant, controlled, analytical were the broad brush

The Extension

The Extension is published quarterly for the WSU retirees by the Wright State University Retirees Association (WSURA).

Cut off dates for articles:

- Nov. 1—Winter Quarter
- Feb. 1—Spring Quarter
- May 1—Summer Quarter
- Aug. 1—Fall Quarter

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strokes that gave shape to the portrait of scholar and mentor. He led by example, mentored with and without words, brought clarity to complex issues and circumstances, and guided the problem-solving process. He worked formally and informally to create an environment for individual and corporate excellence and success.

"Words like sensitive (he remembered not only faces, but remarkably the names that accompanied them); accessible (whether at lunch at the Racquet Club or the Clifton Mill, he made others comfortable in his presence); compassionate (aware of changes in the disposition of others and inquired in concern); gentleman; beloved friend were the brush strokes that created the contrasts of light and shadow demonstrating his humanitarian character.

"The fine brush strokes that brought life and breath and depth to the canvas were words like patron of the arts (as evidenced by his instrumental role in the Schuster Center in Dayton). Funny, sense of humor, and liked to doodle add detail to the portrait. Observe the sparkle in his eyes and the up-turned corner of his mouth as he donned the famous even legendary multi-colored wig.

"Finally, the portrait is placed in a powerful frame called influence. He utilized his skills as an administrator, a mentor, a leader to develop confident, capable individuals, to advance the interests of the Wright State University community, and to enhance the cultural resources of the Dayton area. May we all be strengthened in our resolve to continue his heritage of excellence as we remember **Dr. Robert J. Kegerreis** today."



President's Message

Peggy Bott

On behalf of WSURA, I want to extend our greetings to all WSU retirees who are receiving our newsletter. If you are not a WSURA member, you may want to consider joining now. An application form is on the back page. Wright State continues to be a dynamic university and joining WSURA is a good way to stay abreast of the changes taking place at WSU. This year we will also be paying close attention as the Ohio House and Senate considers the proposed changes to our benefits through STRS and OPERS. Of course, we have some fun events planned also. Please check the listed activities to see if there is one or two you might enjoy.

Best wishes for a happy, healthy 2011!

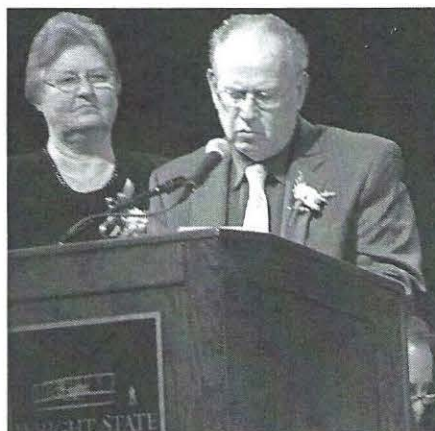
Deaths

Nick Davis, Director, Kettering Center, (WSURA Treasurer and President), October, 2010.

Robert Kegerreis, President, 1973-85, (WSU's longest serving president) October, 2010

James Cannon, Member, Board of Trustees, November, 2010

Eunice McCune, Undergraduate Advisor, CEHS, November, 2010



Carol Stevenson and Gary Pacernick address the Kegerreis memorial audience.

**WSURA Activities Calendar
Winter Quarter, 2011**

- Sunday, Jan. 9 **Dining Out—New Year's Brunch**
Buffet includes breakfast and lunch items, and dessert buffet
Time: 11:30am
Beavercreek Golf Club
Cost: \$13.95 + gratuity
RSVPs needed by Monday, January 3.
E-mail joanne.risacher@wright.edu
- Monday, Jan. 31 **Presidential Lecture Series**
Apollo Room, Student Union, 7:00pm
Charlayne Hunter-Gault, Award Winning Journalist
- Thursday, Feb. 3 **WSU Men's Basketball Game –WSU vs. Loyola**
Time: 7:00pm game
Details to be announced
Cost: \$5 contribution per person
RSVPs will be needed by Friday, January 28
Note: Please indicate if you have tickets or will need them
- Tuesday, Feb. 8 **Presidential Lecture Series**
Apollo Room, Student Union, 7:00pm
Alison Gannett, Extreme Skier and Founder of Save Our Snow
- Wednesday, March 23 **Luncheon and Tour of the WSU Archives ("Miami Valley's Attic")**
The University Archivists are hosting a light lunch and tour of the archives (during Spring Break to facilitate parking.)
WSURA members –please watch for a postcard Invitation in Feb. or early March. RSVPs are essential because of the lunch.
The tour will include such archives as the Wright Brothers memorabilia, the Dayton Daily New and Victoria Theatre papers.
11:30AM
Fourth Floor
Dunbar Library

News from WSURA



Rebekah Wysong

2010-2011 Scholarship Recipient Mary Gromosiak

Congratulations to **Rebekah Wysong** who was chosen by the WSURA as this year's \$1000 scholarship recipient!

As a young mother, **Rebekah** persevered in her goal to complete her college education despite many personal and family problems including major health problems. In fall 2009, she transferred from Sinclair Community College with High Honors and a 3.93 GPA and an Associate Degree in Business Administration and enrolled in the WSU Raj Soin College of Business.

While at Sinclair, **Rebekah** was inducted into the Honors Program, Kappa Beta Delta, Phi Theta Kappa and was a member of numerous community organizations. During 2006-2007, she also had an essay published in Across the Spectrum 2006-2007 and received the Annual Student Writing Award. In 2008, **Rebekah** received the Virgil C. Kitchen Award and Scholarship based on her community service.

A dedicated student, **Rebekah** currently has a dual major in accounting and finance at WSU and is an Honors Scholar with a 3.75 GPA. According to **Dr. John Talbott**, Professor, Raj Soin College of Business, "**Rebekah** is a mature, intelligent individual with excellent interpersonal skills. She has the ability to deal with a variety of diverse constituencies and performs well academically." With a goal of graduating with honors in 2011, she is a member of the Finance Club, the Dayton CFA Society and is a student member of the Dayton Institute of Management Accountants.

In addition to volunteering at St. Vincent's homeless shelter and acting as a Cub Scout Den Leader, **Rebekah** believes she also has a duty as a parent to instill a sense of responsibility to her children. What better way to teach her children than by example. **Rebekah** has met life's challenges and continues to set and exceed her goals.

Friends of the Libraries Gary Barlow

The "Friends of the Libraries" (FOL) is an active group that supports the WSU libraries on campus. I serve as the WSURA representative to this committee. The FOL is comprised of both University and community members. There are ten community members, six WSU faculty/staff members (the WSURA representative is in this category) and one representative from the WSU alumni association.

The FOL serves as a support board to promote and publicize the services and resources of the libraries, as well as a multitude of activities that benefit the University and greater Dayton communities. WSURA takes an active part at this level of campus involvement, and we are fortunate to have representation on the FOL board.

The financial support of WSU students is very important to the FOL, and we give student assistant awards yearly to various selected students. In 2011 the board also will be presenting an undergraduate research award for a deserving project.

Each year the FOL presents guest lecturers for late afternoon presentations that are open to the public. These occur in various quarters, and determined by the availability of the invited speakers. The FOL also holds a spring luncheon and annual board meeting in which a major speaker is invited. Afternoon and luncheon speakers have included **Amanda Wright Lane** ("A Unique Family History"), **Paul Leonard** (former mayor of Dayton), **Dr. Donna Schlagheck** ("Dayton: A Peace Process"), **Ambassador Tony Hall** ("United Nations, Food Relief"), **Jeffrey Bruce** (former editor of the Dayton Daily News), and many others. During this past year, I co-chaired the committee for the selection of speakers.

One of my favorite library projects is the Legacy Book Program. This program is a fitting way to pay lasting tribute to family and friends, and is a way to commemorate birthdays, anniversaries, graduations and other special events. It also can serve as a memorial to some past relative or friend. For a minimum donation of \$50, a bookplate bearing your name or the name of the person you are honoring, will be placed in a newly purchased book in the subject of your choosing, with an appropriate acknowledgement sent to individuals or families. For more information, write to me, or to www.libraries.wright.edu for details.

International Welcome Club

Robert Wagley

As you may know, WSURA initiated a Welcome Club for foreign visiting faculty and scholars last year. Those of us who have spent some time with our previous visitors have had a great time and the visitors have really appreciated it.

At this time, we have four visitors on campus that we know of:

Zhou Wu (zhou.wu@wright.edu) is from China and is working with **Dr. Goshtasby** in Computer Science. **Zhou** arrived this fall and will be at WSU for approximately 18 months.

Yongha Kim (yongha.kim@wright.edu) is from Korea and is working with **Dr. Fox** in Physics. His wife and child (8th grader at Ferguson Jr. Hi., Beavercreek) are also with him. **Yongha** will be at WSU for this academic year.

Maria Elena Valcher (mariaelena.valcher@wright.edu) is from Italy and is working with **Kefu Xue** in Electrical Engineering. We are unsure how long **Maria** will be at WSU.

Fabio Roveda (alturo05@gmail.com) is from Italy and is working with **Dr. Shang** in Mechanical Engineering. **Fabio** has been here since spring and several of us have invited him to various functions. He will be here until early January.

On November 10 the Welcome Club had a reception for these scholars and their advisors. **Maria Valcher, Dr. Goshtasby, Dr. Fox and Dr. Xue** were not able to attend and we will try to speak with these individuals in the near future. **Steven Lyons** from the University Center for International Education and **Stephen Foster**, Vice President for International Education, also attended.

At the reception we had the visiting scholars fill out a short questionnaire (attached) about their interests.

Zhou Wu marked these items from the questionnaire: touring the area; attending sporting events; visiting an American home and family; learning about our American holidays; and participating in sports or recreational activities.

Yongha Kim marked: visiting shopping areas (I am sure with family). He did mention that he wanted to know how to get to one of the outlet malls. He and his wife have been to the US several times and he appears to be comfortable with our culture.

Fabio Roveda indicated interests in: attending sporting events; attending musical events; attending theatre performances; learning about our American holidays; and learning about religious celebrations and observances.

Maria Elena Valcher has not had an opportunity to review and fill out our questionnaire as she was attending a conference in California on November 10th.

Please let the WSURA office know whenever you include any of the visitors in your activities. Since the Welcome Club is a service project for the university it is helpful if we can keep the administration informed on our activities. Send what you did with which visitor to wsura@wright.edu.

Important Reminder for New Retirees

Gerry Petrak, Membership Chair

Attention all new retirees! Please take advantage of your free membership this year by sending in an application on the back of this *Extension*. The membership is not automatic as we need your basic information for our records and to communicate with you. Be sure to include your email address. We will be updating the WSURA Directory in early 2011 so it is important that you activate your membership as soon as possible so that we can include you in the Directory. As you can see from the articles in this issue, WSURA is a vibrant social and service organization and an excellent way to maintain your ties to Wright State as you enter this new phase of your life.

Pun of the Quarter

Mahatma Gandhi, as you know, walked barefoot most of the time, which produced an impressive set of calluses on his feet. He also ate very little, which made him rather frail and, with his odd diet, he suffered from bad breath. This made him a super calloused fragile mystic hexed by halitosis.

WSURA Board Members 2010-2011



Officers

Peggy Bott (President), **Marlene Bireley** (Communications Director), **Leone Low** (Secretary), **Carol Stevenson** (Treasurer). Absent: **Jim Uphoff** (President-elect)

WSURA Board Members

Don Swanson (Bd.member), **Barbara Eakins-Reed** (Scholarship), **Gary Pacernik** (Bd. Member), **Paul Wolfe** (Scholarship), **Judy Rose** (Bylaws and Elections), **Abe Bassett** (Activities), **Gerry Petrak** (Membership Development), **Marlene Bireley** (Sunshine), **Chuck Willis** (Bd. member), **Lew Shupe** (Historical Preservation). Absent: **Emmett Orr** (Bd. member), **Gail Whitaker** (Bd.member), **Lou Falkner** (OCHER representative), **Joanne Risacher** (Activities).



Liaison Representatives

Bob Wagley (International Club), **Chuck Willis** (Athletic Council), **Gary Barlow** (Friends of the Library). Absent: **Mary Kenton** (Athletic Council)

Fall Quarter Activities

WSU Health Fair



WSURA Treasurer **Carol Stevenson** manned the WSURA booth in the main Health Fair exhibit.

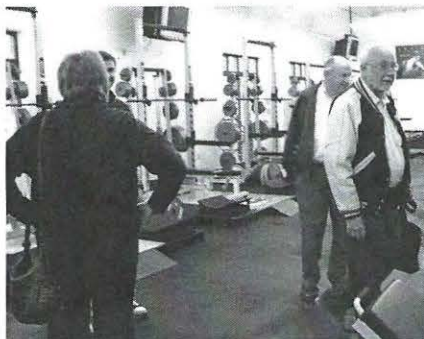


Membership Development Chair **Gerry Petrak** greets visitors at the new retirees reception held during the Health Fair. Between 30 and 40 new retirees and WSURA members attended.



Board member **Gail Whitaker** (right) chats with new retirees.

Touring the Setzer Pavilion/Mills-Morgan Center



WSURA members tour the weight room.



Joanne Risacher and **Rich Johnson** listen attentively to new Director of Basketball Operations **Brendan Mullins** as he describes his duties. He later conducted a tour of the facilities.



Men's basketball coach **Billy Donlon** addresses the group and talks of his hopes for the upcoming season.